(b) The reasons for the losses of the SEBs inter-alia include unremunerative tariff including the agricultural tariff, non-conversion of loans into equity, high T&D losses, low level of Plant Load Factor (PLF), High fuel consumption in Thermal Power Stations (TPSs), etc.

(c) In order to make the SEBs commercially viable, State Governments/ SEBs have been advised, from time to time, to undertake measures such as rationalisation of tariff, regular payment of rural electrification subsidy, improvement in Plant Load Factor (PLF), reduction in transmission and distribution losses, installation of Tamper Proof Meters, disconnection of illegal connections etc.

Enquiries against Secretary level officers

3854. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had referred a number of cases for enquiries against Secretary level officers to the Chief Vigilance Commissioner in 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) if so, the number and details of such enquiries during the last two years;

(c) the details of such officers presently occupying the post of Secretary in Government of India;

(d) whether it is a fact that such enquiries are being delayed; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (e) This Ministry have not referred any case for enquiries against Secretary level officers to the Central Vigilance Commission in 1994-95 and 1995-96.

Effect of Supreme Court Judgement Regarding Punishment of Fine on Entry/ Retention in Government Service

3855. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the recent judgement of the Supreme Court wherein the court had requested the Parliament that provision need be made that punishment of fine upto a certain limit, say upto Rs. 2,000 or so, on a summary or ordinary conviction, shall not be treated as a conviction at all for any purpose, and all the more for entry into and retention in Government service;

(b) if so, the action taken on the judgement so far; and

(c) the number of judgements pending for the last three years with Government in which Government have been directed to enact various laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) Government has seen judgement of the Supreme Court in Pawan Kumar vs. State of Haryana and Anr. (JT 1996 (5) S.C. 155). A person convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude is generally regarded as ineligible for Government service. However, in such cases where it is felt that there are redeeming features and reasons to believe that such a person has cured himself of the weakness, the Government may clear such a person for appointment. In the case of serving Government servants, such employees on conviction in Court cases are liable for departmental action. However, such action is to be taken not on account of conviction itself but in consideration of the conduct which has led to his conviction, the gravity of the misconduct committed by him, the impact which his misconduct is likely to have on the